Serial No.: 09/748,994 Attorney Docket No.: F-240

REMARKS

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CENTRAL FAX CENTER

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1. Status of Claims

Claims 1, 5, 7 and 10-25 were pending in the Application. Applicant has amended claims 1, 15 and 23 and canceled claims 10-11 without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicant submits that no new matter is added. Applicant respectfully requests entry of the above amendments and consideration of the enclosed remarks. Accordingly, claims 1, 5, 7, 12-23 and 25 will remain pending in the application.

2. Rejections under 35 USC § 102(b)

In section 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 5, 7, 12-23 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,438,433 to Reifman, et al. ("Reifman '433").

Solely in order to expedite prosecution, Applicant has amended claims 1, 15 and 23 without prejudice or disclaimer to recite that the indication of tamper includes clearly marking a print out of the data.

Applicant respectfully submits that Reifman '433 does not teach or suggest at least that limitation and accordingly requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection. For example, the Examiner cites to Reifman '433 at Col. 48, line 36 stating "Print on the IFAX." However, that citation simply teaches printing the fax on the described IFAX machine. It does not teach or suggest overlaying a tamper indication message on the fax print out.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 5, 7, 12-23 and 25 are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection.

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3. Conclusion Of Remarks

For at least the reasons stated above, it is respectfully submitted that the claims of this application are in condition for allowance and early and favorable action thereon is requested.

If the Examiner believes that additional issues may be resolved by a telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone the undersigned attorney for Applicant at (203) 924-3180.

4. Authorization

No fee is believed due with this response. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for the response or credit any overpayment to the Pitney Bowes, Inc. Deposit Account Number 16-1885, Order No. F-240.

In the event that an extension of time or additional extension of time is required to make this response timely filed, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to the Pitney Bowes, Inc. Deposit Account Number 16-1885, Order No. F-240.

Respectfully submitted,

George M. Macdonald

Reg. No. 39,284

Attorney for Applicant

Telephone (203) 924-3180

PITNEY BOWES INC.

Intellectual Property and Technology Law Department

35 Waterview Drive, P.O. Box 3000

Shelton, CT 06484-8000